



**COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY OFFICE
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Coast Guard Announces Enforcement Policy for STCW 95

On Feb 1, 2002, the transitional provisions in Regulation I/15 of STCW 95 will end, implementing the remaining provisions of the 1995 amendments to the STCW convention. However, recognizing that a considerable number of flag administrations have not yet issued 1995 credentials due to the overwhelming demand, Coast Guard Port State Control Officers will not detain oceangoing vessels or penalize mariners solely based on the fact that they do not meet the certification and endorsement provisions of STCW 95 at this time. Instead, letters of warning will be issued informing non-compliant parties that an additional six months will be granted in order to attain the necessary certifications and endorsements.

Nonetheless, beginning August 1, 2002 enforcement of STCW 95 will begin and could result in detentions of oceangoing vessels not in compliance with the provisions of the convention.

Also Beginning on August 1, 2002, the Coast Guard will increase scrutiny of vessels and crews associated with STCW non-signatory nations and flag administrations not listed on the IMO "white list" (a listing of those flag administrations whose STCW implementation schemes have been reviewed by an IMO panel of competent persons and have been found to have given full and complete effect to the convention). A listing of these nations can be found at the following web address: http://www.imo.org/includes/blastdataonly.asp/data_id=4045/1018.pdf

For additional information please call Lieutenant Bill Weinbecker of the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Jacksonville at (904) 232-2640 ext. 140.

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